November 2003 Volume 4 Issue 11

#### World's Broadcasters Join Anti-BPL Chorus

condensed from *The ARRL Letter* – A subcommittee of an International Telecommunication Union (ITU) <a href="http://www.itu.org/">http://www.itu.org/</a> > panel of technical experts responsible for terrestrial broadcasting issues has joined a growing chorus of concern about the interference potential of power line telecommunication (PLT)—better known in the US as Broadband over Power Line (BPL). ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) Sub Working Group (SWG) 6E1 expressed the view that interference produced by systems employing PLT as well as by Industrial, Scientific and Medical (ISM) equipment and short-range devices, would compromise broadcast reception.

"SWG 6E1 is of the opinion that any increase in the amount of noise due to these systems is unacceptable," said a statement from the group's chairman to the chairman of Working Party 6E (WP 6E). "In particular, broadcast services should be protected from unwanted emissions from PLT systems," the panel asserted, "as these emissions are a byproduct of a system that is not itself a user of the radio spectrum." The panel recommended the formation of a group representing all users of the radio spectrum "to coordinate development of limits to be imposed on the radiation from these systems."

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, expressed strong support and appreciation for the SWG's conclusions and the ongoing efforts of parent Working Party 6E to study the issue. "If BPL is a problem for broadcasters," Sumner said, "it's easy to see that it would be a disaster for us."

#### **♦ What's Inside**

Fort Wayne Radio Club News & Meeting Information	pg.	2
FWRC Minutes	pg.	3
FWRC Field Day Results	pg.	3
Pictures from JOTA	pg.	3
ACARTS News & Meeting Information	pg.	4
ACARTS Minutes	pg.	5
ACARTS Officer Slate for 2004	pg.	5
ACARTS Christmas Party	pg.	5
Ft Wayne DX Association (FWDXA) News:		
Running Your Own Propagation Predictions, Pt. 1	pg.	6
ARECC/ARES Seminar Info	pg.	7
Fort Wayne Hamfest Forum Schedule	pg.	8
Peggy A. Coulter, W9JUJ – SK	pg.	9
NWS/ARRL SKYWARN Recognition Day	pg.	9
Regional Hamfests	pg.	9
VE Exam Schedule	pg.	10
For Sale & Wanted	pg.	10
ECHO LINK Info	pg.	10
Membership Application	pg.	11
Activities Calendar	pg.	12

Broadcasters themselves also have exhibited increased concern about the potential of PLT/BPL to prevent their signals from reaching listeners. The Research and Development branch of the highly regarded British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) has released a White Paper <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/rd/pubs/whp/whp067.html">http://www.bbc.co.uk/rd/pubs/whp/whp067.html</a> reporting on a brief trial in Scotland. The two competing PLT/BPL systems in operation in the town of Crieff both interfered with HF reception. Tests were conducted at four locations.

"The forms of access PLT that were tested in Crieff were found to have demonstrable potential to cause interference to indoor reception of broadcasting in relevant bands," the White Paper concluded. Significant interference even occurred in one resi-

Continued on page 8

# Advanced Storm Spotter Training-2004 - Howard Pletcher, N9ADS

There will be an Advanced Skywarn Spotter Training Class at Elkhart Central High School on Saturday, March 13, 2004. The theme this year is "Better Tools for Weather Spotting". One of the 4 speakers will be Roger Edwards from the Storm Prediction Center in Norman, OK. Generally, the session will be organzed much the same as the 2003 session with different speakers. Registration is be \$25.00 in advance, which includes lunch, and registrations will be taken at the IMO Skywarn table at the Fort Wayne Hamfest.

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN) and the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN).

Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, wb9uza@arrl.net. Please put "for newsletter" in the subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755.

Deadline for November issue is 11/7/2003. Please do NOT send anything in all caps!!

### **Internet Home Pages:**

Fort Wayne Radio Club: http://www.fortwayneradioclub.org ACARTS:

> http://www.acarts.com Ft Wayne DX Association: http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/

# Hamsplatter Fort Wayne Radio Club P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

#### Officers

#### President:

Tom Baker N9TB 747-2714 n9tb@arrl.net

#### Vice President:

Steve Nardin WB9ZIY 483-4039 WB9ZIY@ARRL.NET

#### Secretary:

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#### Treasurer:

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## Communications Manager:

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Jim Moehring KB9WWM 493-8326 servo300@aol.com

Brian Jenks N9RYI 482-8506 n9ryi@hotmail.com

Vic Guess WB9UZA 485-7472 wb9uza@arrl.net



#### President's Corner



As I write this month, the annual Fort Wayne Hamfest is only 9 days away. It is always a great opportunity to see some old friends and make some new ones, check out ham gear of all vintages, and attend some infor-

mative forums. Please make an effort to get to the Hamfest this year. As always the Fort Wayne Radio Club will be well represented at the forums. Carole Burke, WB9RUS, has a forum on the YLRL; Jim Pliett, K9OMA, has a forum on ATV; and Jim Moehring, KB9WWM, has a forum on PSK31. Make it a point to stop in to one of these sessions.

While we are talking about the Hamfest, let me remind you that FWRC will again have a couple of tables. The tables will be to the "right" of the ACARTS tables along the wall near the speaker's stand. As always we invite you, if you have a single item or two to sell, you may use the FWRC tables. But remember, if you use the FWRC tables you also need to sign up to work a time slot at the FWRC tables. And if you leave an item on the table, make sure it is clearly marked with your Name, Call, Price, and a way to get in touch with you if you are going to be away from the tables.

Whether you have an item to sell or not remember to stop by the FWRC tables to join or renew your membership for 2004. The end of the year is only a few weeks away, so rather than forget to join or renew; stop by the table at the Hamfest and you will have that out of your way for next year. Your local radio clubs maintain the local repeaters, sponsor Field Day and other activities that all cost the clubs money. Your local clubs deserve your support; make sure you join or renew.

In other club news, I want to thank Jim Moehring, KB9WWM, for his presentation on propagation and software for predicting propagation at the October meeting. It was an excellent presentation and generated interest in a number of people to download some software from the Internet and

learn more about propagation. We are thankful for everyone who has helped with the club programs. You asked for interesting programs and we have provided them.

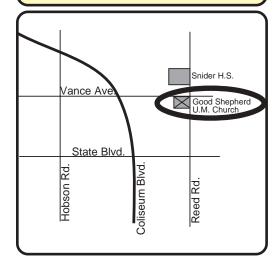
Thanks also to Steve Nardin, WB9ZIY, for setting up the November presentation. For November we will have a representative from the Norfolk Southern Railway talk about their operation lifesaver program. There are a lot of railway buffs among the ranks of the area amateurs. Come out to the meeting on Friday November 21st and satisfy both hobbies. We hope to see you there.

And the calendar is full for the next several months. December will be the annual Christmas banquet with more details to follow, January will be the annual FWRC auction, and February will be the Skywarn presentation. Make sure you mark you calendars now for all of these events.

Tom / N9TB

# November Meeting:

Fri, Nov. 21, 2003, 7:30 PM Program: NS Railroad: "Operation Lifesaver"





#### Fort Wayne Radio Club Minutes 17 October 2003

The October 2003 meeting of the Fort Wayne Radio Club was called to order at 7:30 PM, Friday, Oct. 17th. After our usual introductions, president Tom Baker, N9TB, told us that the church wants us to conclude the meeting by 8:45, in a move to lower janitorial costs.

Old business was then discussed. Several comments were made about the repeater controller compromise; mainly that the more powerful 1000XL controller with all other accessories was only \$100 more than the less powerful 300DXL unit.

The next item was the treasurer's report which was lacking in detail, but straight to the point: the treasurer, W8ST, told us "we have lots of money!". This concluded the report.

An annoucement was made about the upcoming (Nov 2nd) Foxhunt.

Steve, WB9ZIY, then outlined plans for the JOTA activity on Saturday, Oct 18th, at the Boy Scout Camp.

The most important business of the evening was then addressed: the election of club officers. A move was made to accept the slate of officers by acclaimation, and this was unaminously excepted. The officers for 2004 are:

President: Tom Baker, N9TB

VP: Steve Nardin, WB9ZIY

Treasurer: Bob Streeter, W8ST

Secretary: Al Burke, WB9SSE

Communications mgr: Brain Jenks, N9RYI

Newsletter: Vic Guess, WB9UZA

Board: Larry Temenoff, KB9OS

Board: Carole Burke, WB9RUS

Board: Jim Moehring, KB9WWM

After a breif break the presentation, Propagation and Snapmax Software was presented by Jim Moehring, KB9WWM.

11/2/2003, Steve Nardin, WB9ZIY

# FWRC Field Day Results Update, Steve Nardin, WB9ZIY

Number 1 in Indiana for '4A' stations.

Number 1 in the midwest region for '4A'.

Number 19 for the whole USA for '4A'.

(Results from the ARRL web site)



#### **Pictures from JOTA**







# STATE OF THE ARTS

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

#### ACARTS Officers

#### **President**

Vic Berko, KA9LTV (260) 747-0938 vberko@comcast.net

#### **Vice President**

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH (260) 485-6135 w9lkh@compuserve.com

#### Secretary

Kevin Crews, KC9BUR (260) 492-5782 kcrews2@aol.com

#### Treasurer

Howard Pletcher, N9ADS (260) 747-5252 n9ads@juno.com

### ACARTS Managers

Activities OPEN

#### **Emergency Preparedness**

Dan Soper, KB9NGM (260) 637-5787 dan996@aol.com

#### Communications

Victor Guess, WB9UZA (260) 485-7472 wb9uza@arrl.net

#### Station Manager

Doug Jones, N9NNT (260) 432-9277 n9nnt@comcast.net

#### **Fundraising Manager**

Jim Boyer, KB9IH (260) 489-6700 kb9ih@arrl.net

#### **W9INX Trustee**

Doug Jones, N9NNT (260) 432-9277 n9nnt@comcast.net

#### **Tech Committee**

Emery McClendon, KB9IBW (260) 485-4120 kb9ibw@juno.com

#### **President's Message**



Last month we had a impromptu field trip for the October program. The opportunity came up at the last minute, which left no time to get it in the newsletter, or net announcements. Also it re-

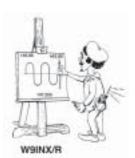
quired reservations in advance of the tour. This happens when we do not have a regular activities manager. That spot went unfilled this year, and the task fell to the board. I hope that can be fixed for next year. I would like to thank Eric Sailor, chairperson of the Fort Wayne Chapter of IEEE, for inviting us to join the chapter for a tour of TV 39. We went on a tour of their new studios, and found out about high definition digital TV.

Our hope to have a operating club station at Turnstone will not happen because of space limitations. They are running out of room for their programs, even with the recent expansion, they still do not have enough room. The Life Skills room, which housed their computer lab, and our station, is needed for another purpose. Turnstone recently received a grant for \$100,000 to purchase physical fitness equipment designed for children. The Life Skills room is going to be converted into a fitness center. This is great for them as they can offer more services for children with disabilities.

The month of November is busy for us. This month we have the Hamfest, and the nomination and election of officers / managers for 2004. At the time of this writing, most of the current officers have indicated they will accept a nomination for and will serve another term. There were three I have not yet heard from. We have two positions that have no nominees at this time. The manager positions of Emergency Preparedness, and Activities are still open. You can put your name in for a position if you are interested. If you want to know more about a position contact me. We will have fi-

nal nominations prior to voting at the November General meeting.

Remember to make your calendar for December 13. That is the night of our Christmas



party. Read the details about the party and the slate of officers for the election, elsewhere in this newsletter. See you at the Hamfest.

73, Vic, KA9LTV

#### **Meeting Schedule**

All meetings are at 7:30 PM at Turnstone unless otherwise noted.

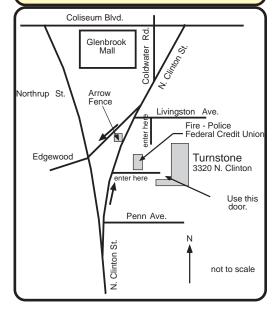
**ACARTS General Meeting:** Nov. 18

Program: TBD

**Next Board Meeting:** Dec. 9

All members are encouraged to attend.

**Tech Committee**: no meeting this month



**NOTE**: Due to the tour of Ch. 39 studios for the October ACARTS program, there was no business meeting and of course, no minutes.

#### **ACARTS Officer Slate for 2004**

This is the current slate of candidates for 2004. We will accept final nominations at the November general meeting prior to voting.

President - Vic Berko KA9LTV Vice-President - Dave Lindquist W9LKH Secretary - current officer undecided Treasurer - Howard Pletcher N9ADS Emergency Preparedness - OPEN

Activities - OPEN

Communications - Victor Guess WB9UZA Station Manager / Trustee - Doug Jones N9NNT Fund Raising - current manager undecided Tech Committee - current manager undecided



# ACARTS Christmas Party

The December program will be our Christmas party. I am writing this early so you can make plans. The December newsletter comes out a few days before the party which

will not be enough time. Once again for the program, we will have a white elephant gift exchange. If you wish to participate, bring a wrapped, gender neutral gift. I can be something real or a gag gift. The way a white elephant works is like this. We draw a name or number to select who picks a gift. That person opens the gift and shows it to everyone. That person then draws the next name. The person then can pick a new gift, or take what has been selected. The person who has their gift taken, gets to pick a gift next. This goes on until all gifts have been picked. It is a lot of fun, and can get very interesting, as some gifts change hands several times. The party is on December 13, and starts at 6:00 PM. We will eat around 6:30 PM. The club will provide the meat and drinks. Please bring your favorite dish to share with everyone. Send me a e-mail or call my number and leave a message if you plan to attend.

73, Vic, KA9LTV

# **September 2003 ACARTS Board Meeting Minutes**



The September ACARTS board meeting was called to order by President Vic Berko, KA9LTV at approximately 7:55 PM.

Jim Boyer, KB9IH handed out Hamfest work schedules to the ACARTS managers present at the meeting. Jim mentioned that members will begin receiving calls concerning volunteer work for the Fort Wayne Hamfest in the next couple of weeks.

Forum scheduling was also brought up at the meeting, but all of the details haven't been ironed out.

The meeting was adjurned at 8:55PM.

Respectfully Submited,

Kevin, KC9BUR

# October 2003 ACARTS Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic announced that Turnstone has received a substantial grant for physical fitness equipment and the only place they can put it is the room where our club station equipment is located. They have requested that all of our equipment and cabinets be removed by the end of October.

Vic stated that the October general meeting would be a tour of Channel 39's new studios. This is to be a shared tour with the IEEE.

Dan, KB9NGM, announced that the ARRL has requested that they present an Amateur Radio Emergency Communications seminar on the day before the hamfest. It will be held at Turnstone from 1 to 5 p.m. on Friday, November 14, 2003 and is open to all interested hams.

Jim, KB9IH, said that he is trying to find a way to get the hamfest workers packages out earlier than last year, but he needs the information from the managers and correct addresses in a timely manner.

Joel, KB9RH, stated that he will schedule the Skywarn meeting with the National Weather Service for the third Tuesday of February.

Joel reported that running the hamfest mailing list through the National Change of Address resulted in 278 moves.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH



## Ft Wayne DX Association

#### Running Your Own Propagation Predictions

#### Part 1 - Downloading W6ELProp and Setting the Options

#### by Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

The January 2003 column asked "When Are the Bands Open?" and proceeded to give a general answer to that question. Additionally, that column offered (compliments of the ARRL) summary propagation charts for W9 to seven general areas of the world for 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, and 10m for all the months and several smoothed sunspot numbers. With these summary predictions, your DXing from W9-land should improve.

But what if you venture outside the ninth call area? Or you need some predictions on the WARC bands? Is there

Is there a userfriendly propagation prediction program to do this job? Yes, there is. It's from Shel W6EL, and it's called W6ELProp. a user-friendly propagation prediction program to do this job? Yes, there is. It's from Shel W6EL, and it's called W6ELProp. It's the Windows version of his popular (but now discontinued) DOS-based MINIPROP series. And it's a free download, too. So for this month's column, let's download

it and set up the options. Then we'll run a prediction in next month's column and review what the outputs mean.

Downloading W6ELProp is easy. Go to

<http://www.qsl.net/w6elprop/>. Scroll down a bit and click on Download W6ELProp v2.70. You'll be downloading a 480K file called W6ELPropInst270.exe. Execute it, and follow the directions. You'll end up with the W6ELPRop icon on your desktop.

Start W6ELProp and then click on the Options menu. In the Default Terminal folder, enter your call and your latitude and longitude (from your state map in an encyclopedia, for example).

Next go to the Frequencies and Constants folder. For the frequencies, enter the frequencies you'd like predictions on. I usually use 3.7, 7.1, 10.1, 14.2, 18.1, 21.2, 24.9, and 28.3 (you can even add the new 60m frequency, too). Note that W6ELProp only allows frequencies down to 3.0MHz. It does not do predictions on 160m. For Additive Signal Level Constants, this is where you input your station specifics in dB referenced to 100w and a dipole. For example, if you have an older 1000w amp that does 80-10m but excludes the WARC bands, you'd add 10dB

[10 log (1000w/100w)] to all but the WARC frequencies. If you have a tri-bander on 20m, 15m, and 10m, then you'd

Frequencies (MHz)	Additive Signal Level Constants (dB)
3.7 7.1 10.1 14.2 18.1 21.2 24.9	10.0 10.0 0.0 16.0 0.0 16.0 0.0
28.3	16.0

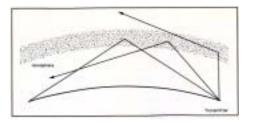
add an additional 6dB on those frequencies (that's roughly the gain of a small tri-bander over a dipole). The accompanying figure shows the frequencies and additive signal level constants for this scenario.

In the Prediction Parameters folder, go with Minimum Radiation Angle = 1.0 degree (use higher values if your QTH is blocked at low elevation angles), Noise Bandwidth = 3000Hz for SSB (use 500Hz for CW), Signal Level Suppression Threshold = 0dB, Man-Made Noise Environment as dictated by your QTH, and put a check in the Suppress Zero-Availability Predictions box.

In the User Preferences folder, go with Sunspot Number for the Primary Solar Index, Signals Levels for the Primary Signal Display, UTC for Time Display, 3 minutes for map Auto Upgrade Interval, and Low for Frequency Map Resolution.

Now click on the Save My Settings and Exit button. Don't forget to do this!

That's it for this month. You're all set up to run predictions. Next month we'll discuss the input parameters for a specific prediction, run that prediction, and explain the outputs. In the meantime I'm sure you'll run some on your own. And check out the mapping feature (under the Map menu) - it's really great for visualizing low band openings, where the dark ionosphere is the best place for our RF to be.



Are you interest in

# EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS and HOMELAND SECURITY?

The ARRL is going to sponsor an ARECC/ARES seminar in Indiana

The ARRL will offer a free Amateur Radio Emergency Communications seminar on *Friday, November 14*, in conjunction with the Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo in Fort Wayne, Indiana\*. This program is designed to explain in greater detail the duties of all Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course participants and how their volunteer efforts are essential to the ARES Field Organization. Senior Citizens are strongly encouraged to participate.

"With the continuing support of our federal homeland security grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service, and the national grant from our corporate partner, United Technologies Corporation, ARECC participants are reinforcing the ARES Field Organization. This seminar will explain the importance of every team player with emphasis on using lessons learned to effectively move Amateur Radio emergency communications to the next level," said ARRL Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG.

All ARES volunteers, ARECC course participants, and Field Organization leadership will be invited. Course participants at every ARECC level - Mentors, Certification Instructors, Certification Examiners and current students - will be encouraged to come and share with everyone their experiences with the ARECC Program. Field Organization Leadership - SMs, SECs, DECs and ECs - will also be invited to join in the brainstorming with ideas for motivating volunteers and coordinating activities. We will focus on coordination between ARECC volunteers and students, and their integration into the Field Organization, helping us to provide the community impact stressed by CNCS for year 2.

Attendees will receive handouts and be eligible for a prize drawing at the end of the seminar. The seminar will be held at the

TURNSTONE CENTER, 3320 North Clinton Street in Fort Wayne from 1 to 5 PM on Friday, November 14 and *is open to all interested hams*.

Seating may be limited. Contact Dan Miller, K3UFG (k3ufg@arrl.org, 860-594-0340, FAX 860-594-0259) at ARRL HQ if you plan to attend.

Seminar attendance does not include admission to the convention. For more information on the ARRL Fort Wayne Hamfest, visit the hamfest web site at www.fortwaynehamfest.com For a map to the Turnstone Center, go to www.acarts.com/images/tstone.jpg

\* The seminar will not include the Level I course itself.

## **Fort Wayne Hamfest Forum Schedule**

Saturday	Red Room	White Room	Blue Room
9:00			VE TESTING
9:15			by W5YI
9:30			Cost is \$12.00
9:45			
10:00		ARRL Forum	
10:15		BPL: The Greatest Threat To Amateur Radio In The Last 80 Years!	
10:30		Logbook Of The World (LoTW) Is Here	
10:45		by Dick Isely W9GIG, Director, Central Division	
11:00		Jim Weaver K8JE, Director, Great Lakes Division	
11:15		Dan Miller K3UFG, ARRL Representative	
11:30		Jim Sellers K9ZBM, Indiana Section Manager	
11:45			
12:00	AMSAT		
12:15	by		•
12:30	Gerd Schrick, WB8IFM	IRCC Forum	
12:45	Steve Coy, K8UD	& Outstanding Amateur of the Year Awards Ceremony	
1:00	<b>Emergency Communications</b>	by Vicki Rudicel KB9OME	Young Ladies Radio League
1:15	by Dave Pifer,N9YNF	Jack Parker W8ISH	by Carole Burke, WB9RUS
1:30	Indiana Section	QRP	
1:45	Emergency Coordinator	by Bill Kelsey	
2:00	MARS	N8ET	Indiana Repeater Council
2:15	by Ed Wood, WD9DVA		
2:30			
2:45			
3:00	ARRL CCE Program		
3:15	by Dan Miller, K3UFG		
3:30	ARRL Representative		
3:45			
4:00			
Sunday	Red Room	White Room	Blue Room
9:00			
9:15			
9:30			
9:45			
10:00	HF Operations	Echo Link & Emergency Communications	Amateur TV
10:15	from Apartments		by
10:30	by Ted Tahmisian,W9WT	by Dan Miller, K3UFG, ARRL Representative	Jim Pliett, K9OMA
10:45			
11:00	A Modern Day Mobile	Amateur Radio In The "Rally For America"	Fox Hunting
11:15	Installation for HF-UHF	by Emery McClendon, KB9IBW	by
11:30	by Charlie Hall, KC9LA		Carl Rittenhouse, N9NRO
11:45			
12:00	APRS	ARRL:"What bangs do I get for my bucks?"	National Weather Service IMO SKYWARN
12:15	by James Smith, K9APR	by Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director, Great Lakes Division	& Snowspotter Training
			by Steve Eddy, KC9BQD
12:30			Warning Coordination Meteorlogist
12:45			Paul Van Dyke, KB9AVO, Pres. IMO Skywarn
1:00	Importance of Public		PSK-31
1:15	Relations to Amateur Radio		by Jim Moehring ,KB9WWM
1:30	by Jim McDonald KB9LEI		
1:45			
2:00			

#### Continued from page 1

dential area with an underground power distribution cable. BBC engineers described the interference as varying between "annoying" and "a level sufficient to make the broadcast completely unintelligible." Before commercially licensing PLT, the report advised, regulators need to undertake further study of other PLT systems and, among

other issues, look into possible ways to make the PLT systems compatible with radio reception.

To support the League's efforts in the BPL fight, visit the ARRL's secure BPL Web site <a href="https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/bpl/">https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/bpl/</a>>.

#### Peggy A. Coulter, W9JUJ - SK

It is with much sadness that I report the passing of Peggy A. Coulter W9JUJ. Peggy served as Indiana Section Manager for 12 years from 1990 to 2002. For 11 of those 12 years, I served as Section Emergency Coordinator with her guidance.

Peggy was first licensed in 1950. She was a life member of the ARRL, life member of QCWA, charter member of Quarter Century Wireless Women, and a member of the Young Ladies Radio League since 1950. A member of the Muncie Area Amateur Radio Club. She received the Indiana Amateur of the Year award in 1951 and 1979. Peggy also served as Section Traffic Manager for 10 years, Manager of the 9th Region Net, and Transcontintal Corps for the Central Area for 5 years.

Peggy was a member of Losantsville O.E.S. 536. A 50-year member of O.E.S. and a Past Matron of Whitney Chapter No. 564. A Private Pilot, and a past Chairman of the Indiana Chapter of Ninety Nines Inc, and had flown in the Powder Puff Derby. She was a member of Cornerstone Brethern Church and Ministries.

She is survived by a daughter, Nancy Ruster of Muncie, a son John H. Coulter II of Hartford City, two grand-daughters, a grandson, a sister Jane Corey of North Port, FL, four great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband John H. Coulter in 1973.

Funeral Services were Tuesday, October 28, at 10 a.m. in the Parson Mortuary, Muncie, with burial at the Elm Ridge Memorial Park Cemetery.

Online condolences may be submitted to www.parsonmortuary.com

ARRL Indiana Section

Section Manager: James S. Sellers, K9ZBM

k9zbm@arrl.org

# NWS/ARRL SKYWARN Recognition Day Set For December 6

from *The ARRL Letter* – The fifth annual SKYWARN Recognition Day will take place Saturday, December 6, 2003, 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC. During the special event, Amateur Radio operators visit National Weather Service (NWS) offices and contact other operators around the world. The purpose of the event is twofold: to recognize Amateur Radio operators for the vital public service they perform during times of severe weather and to strengthen the bond between radio amateurs and their local NWS office. The event is cosponsored by the American Radio Relay League and the National Weather Service.



Traditionally, hams have assisted the National Weather Service during times of severe weather by providing real-time reports of severe events and storm evolution. "You simply can't put a price tag on it," said Scott Mentzer, NOQE, organizer of the event and Meteorologist-In-Charge at the NWS office in Goodland, Kansas. "The assistance that radio amateurs provide to the NWS throughout the year is invaluable."

This year, radio amateurs once again proved their worth. On May 4, after tornadoes knocked out all communications in Stockton, Missouri, portable ham radio stations were set up and staffed by volunteers, with licensed NWS employees forwarding specific forecasts to hams at the Stockton Emergency Operations Center (EOC). In August, an Amateur Radio storm spotter in Iowa tracked a tornado until it lifted, providing the local NWS office in the Quad Cities with "ground truth." This resulted in more specific information and earlier warnings being disseminated to the public

The story doesn't stop there. Deployed during a winter storm last March, hams in Fairbanks, Alaska reported pinpoint locations of freezing rain and snow. The information was relayed on 2 meters, which allowed the local NWS office to sharply define the warning area and provide detailed statements of ice accumulation. In Wisconsin, a volunteer operator reported to the NWS office early one spring morning and solicited snowfall reports from amateurs across the re-

Continued on page 10

## **Regional Hamfests**

<u>Date</u>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contact Phone</b>	URL or E-mail
15-16 Nov 2003	Fort Wayne, IN	260-484-1314 (info)	http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com
7 Dec 2003	Harrison Twp., MI	586-465-2797	http://www.n8lc.org
14 Dec 2003	Greenfield, IN	317-326-1659	http://www.w9atg.org

For more complete information go to http://www.acarts.com/hamfests.htm or http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html#listing



#### **Test Points**

15-Nov-2003

Sponsor: FORT WAYNE HAMFEST & COMP

**EXPO** 

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: WILLIAM C HALL

(260)485-3995 Email: WD9HII@ARRL.NET

VEC: W5YI VEC

Location: ALLEN COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL COL

4000 PARNELL AVENUE FORT WAYNE, IN 46802

22-Nov-2003

Sponsor: UNSPONSORED Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins) Contact: ROBERT E HIGH

(419)795-5763 VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: EMA BLDG 1220 LINCOLN HWY VAN WERT, OH 45891

29-Nov-2003

Sponsor: W5YI-VEC — WHITLEY COUNTY ARC

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: ROGER L MC ENTARFER

(219)691-3009

Email: N9QCL@ARRL.NET

VEC: W5YI VEC

Location:

BASEMENT MEETING ROOM 101 W MARKET ST - SUITE C WHITLEY COUNTY JAIL COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725

24-Jan-2004

Sponsor: UNSPONSORED Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins) Contact: WALTER C VOGEL

(419)394-2976

Email: AWVOGEL@BRIGHT.NET

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: VAN WERT COUNTY EMA OFFICE

1220 LINCOLN HWY VAN WERT, OH 45891

#### Continued from page 9

gion, allowing the NWS to produce a detailed snow graphic and make a public statement summarizing the storm. Amateur Radio success stories such as these occur every year, all across the country.

In 2002, participants logged nearly 23,000 QSOs during the 24 hour event. Last year nearly 70 countries were contacted. To learn more, check out the NOAA Web site. — Thanks to David Floyd, N5DBZ, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, NWS Goodland, Kansas



# For Sale & Wanted

For Sale from FWRC:

• Hy-Gain TH-4 tribander. Decent condition, on ground, needs new clamps.

• CushCraft 5 element 6-meter beam. Cut for 50.110 MHz. Very good condition, on ground.

STEVE NARDIN, WB9ZIY, 260-483-4039 FORT WAYNE

\* \* \*

For Sale - Estate of K9CR

1) Kenwood TM-733A Dual Band FM Mobile (fixed operation with external power supply available below) 144 MHz (50 watts) and 440 MHz (35 watts), selectable RF power output levels, detachable front panel, includes multifunction DTMF MC-45DM microphone, VHF+VHF, UHF+UHF, VHF+UHF, dual ext. spkr. outputs, data connector for packet operation, dual RF connections (ext. diplexer included for dual band antenna use), noise/auto/carrier squelch functions, 70 memory channels, call channel, programmable memory, automatic repeater offsets, automatic simplex checking, repeater tone access, 7 scan modes, automatic band change, advanced intercept point, mute, lock, automatic power off, display dimmer, display demo mode, remote control, Dual Tone Squelch System, DTMF Paging modes, tone alert. Includes external diplexer for single coax feed to dual band antenna. SN 51202591, \$300.

2) Pyramid PS-21K 13.8 volt 20 amp power supply - for fixed station operation of TM-733A. \$80.

Contact Bob Streeter, W8ST, 672-9737, w8st@arrl.net

**NOTE:** For Sale & Wanted items will be listed for 2 months only unless the ad is resubmitted. If you sell an item the first month, please contact the editor so the item can be removed.

#### ECHO LINK Info

ECHO LINK NODE:

maintained by: KB9RLW

Simplex Frequency: 145.700 FM only

Node number: 16686

Random connection: dial "00" Hang up or disconnect: dial "#"

Identify: dial "\*"

Membership Application for C	☐ FWRC - and/or - ☐ ACARTS			
Name: Call	Call sign: License class:			
	et address: City:			
State: ZIP : <sup>4</sup> Phone #: () Unlisted? □ Yes				
Email address: ARRL Member?  ☐ Yes				
May we list your name, call & email address in our membership	p roster and on our club web site?			
Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a \$6.00/yr. premit How would you like your newsletter delivered?     by snail n	um.			
Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues	A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues			
Regular membership  Family membership  Student membership  Student membership  Associate membership  Student membership  Stude	Regular membership Additional family members    \$12.00 / year  \$6.00 / year			
Family membership <sup>1</sup>	Additional family members <sup>1</sup> \$6.00 / year			
Student membership <sup>2</sup>	Student membership <sup>2</sup>			
Associate membership <sup>3</sup>	Associate membership $^3$ $\square$ \$6.00 / year			
Maned newsletter 56.00 / year	(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)			
(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)				
<ol> <li>Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.</li> <li>K-12 or full time student</li> <li>digit ZIP code required for US bulk mail</li> </ol>				
Please attach a check (number) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:				
Fort Wayne Radio Club	A.C.A.R.T.S.			
PO Box 15127	PO Box 10342			
Fort Wayne, IN 46885	Fort Wayne, IN 46851			
For dual membership, fill out both sides and send 2 checks to e	either club. Payment by check is strongly encouraged!			

#### **ACARTS Voice Repeaters**

146.880 (-) General use / Skywarn priority

147.255 (+) General use / Autopatch priority\*

443.800 (+) General use

(All repeaters have autopatch, but 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

#### **ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digipeaters)**

144.390 (s) APRS - wide\*

145.010 (s) General use, NETROM (FWA) - wide\*

223.660 (s) BBS use ONLY NETROM (FWA220) - wide\*

\* - temporarily out of service

#### **Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters**

Voice: 146.76 (-) General use

146.94 (-) General use with autopatch

146.91 (-) Autopatch only 444.875 (+) General use

ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control

#### Area Traffic Nets

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

**IMO**: meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. (2330 UTC) on 146.88 **Auburn**: meets Mon., Tue., Wed., Thur., Fri., & Sat. at 6 p.m. (2300 UTC) on 147.36(+)

21 Repeater Group: meets each Wednesday at 9 p.m. (0200 UTC) on 147.150

Helping Hands Net: Mondays @ 9:00 p.m. 146.94(-)

#### **Miscellaneous Nets**

**Huntington ARES**: Saturday at 8:00 p.m. (0100 UTC) on 146.685

Whitley Co. / ARES: Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. (0015 UTC) on 145.270 (Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

Whitley Co. Sunday: Sundays at 7:45 p.m. (0045 UTC) on 444.550 +. (The 146.460 simplex crossbanding from both nets has been dropped.)

Six Meter AM net (informal): Every Saturday night at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday at 8:30 p.m. on 50.580 MHz.

## TO:

